Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Public Works

Date: November 8, 2012

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: Groundwater Study - Preliminary Presentation

Recommendation:

Receive and File.

Previous Directives:

Prepared by: Dale Folen, Senior Professional Engineer, 661-4908
Shahin Rezania, Principal Professional Engineer, 661-4902

Approved by:

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Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Dale Folen, Senior Professional Engineer
Bernie Bullert, Director, Water Treatment & Distribution Services

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC)	Approval: Not Applicable
Civil Rights Approval	Approval: Not Applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG)	Approval: Not Applicable

Financial Impact

No financial impact at the present time. Report includes information for future planning.

Action is within the Business Plan

Community Impact

The whole community will gain benefit from the project. Construction would occur in Ward 4. Community impact will be identified more clearly in future steps of project development.

Background/Supporting Information

The Water Treatment and Distribution Services Division of the Public Works Department has been investigating the opportunity to develop a series of ground water wells to augment the current Mississippi River water source.

The Water division has been working for many years to increase redundancy in many parts of the system in order to maintain service when certain parts of the system are removed from service. The Groundwater Study is the next logical step in the improvement of the system. In addition, adding water wells to augment or replace river flow has been encouraged by regulatory agencies that have jurisdiction in this area.

Ideas for alternative water supplies have been investigated several times during the past six or seven decades. The study expands on previous ideas by considering ground water wells in public spaces across a wider area than previously reviewed, particularly in the northern part of the City. It also identifies specific treatment process benefits from blending ground water with river water.

The study finds adequate ground water supply to meet typical water demands in the City. Significant cost and effort, as well as cooperation with many entities, will be required to accomplish the overall project. However, the nature of the project allows gradual implementation, to help manage reasonable levels of investment over the next several years.

Attachments: None